

What is claimed is:

1. A closing plug for receipt by a threaded flange that is assembled into a drum end, said closing plug comprising:
  - 5 a threaded body for receipt by said threaded flange;
  - a radial flange arranged adjacent a first end of said threaded body; and
  - a plurality of axially-protruding projections extending from an outer portion of said radial flange in the direction of said drum end for limiting the threaded advancement of said plug by abutment of one or more of said plurality of axially-protruding projections
  - 10 against an abutment surface.
2. The closing plug of claim 1 wherein said radial flange has a modified hex shape.
- 15 3. The closing plug of claim 2 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding projections includes six spaced-apart projections.
4. The closing plug of claim 3 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.
- 20 5. The closing plug of claim 4 wherein each axially-protruding projection has a substantially flat lower edge.
6. The closing plug of claim 5 wherein said surface is a surface of said drum
- 25 end.
7. The closing plug of claim 1 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding projections includes six spaced-apart projections.
- 30 8. The closing plug of claim 1 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.

9. The closing plug of claim 1 wherein each axially-protruding projection has a substantially flat lower edge.

10. The closing plug of claim 1 wherein said surface is a surface of said drum  
5 end.

11. A drum closure for a drum end comprising:  
a threaded flange constructed and arranged for assembly into said drum end;  
a closing plug constructed and arranged for receipt by said threaded flange, said  
10 closing plug having a threaded body and a radial flange arranged adjacent a first end of  
said threaded body;  
a sealing gasket positioned around said threaded body; and  
abutment means for limiting the threaded advancement of said closing plug into  
said threaded flange.

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12. The drum closure of claim 11 wherein said abutment means includes a plurality of axially-protruding projections extending from an outer portion of said radial flange.

20 13. The drum closure of claim 12 wherein each of said plurality of axially-protruding projections has an axial length such that contact against an abutment surface occurs after said closing plug is tightened into said threaded flange to a desired torque.

14. The drum closure of claim 13 wherein said radial flange has a modified hex  
25 shape.

15. The drum closure of claim 14 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding projections includes six spaced-apart projections.

30 16. The drum closure of claim 15 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.

17. The drum closure of claim 16 wherein each axially-protruding projection has a substantially flat lower edge.

5 18. The drum closure of claim 11 wherein said radial flange has a modified hex shape.

19. The drum closure of claim 12 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding projections includes six spaced-apart projections.

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20. The drum closure of claim 19 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.

15 21. The drum closure of claim 20 wherein each axially-protruding projection has a substantially flat lower edge.

22. A closing plug for receipt by a threaded flange that is assembled into a drum end, said closing plug comprising:

a threaded body for receipt by said threaded flange;

20 a radial flange arranged adjacent a first end of said threaded body; and

a plurality of axially-protruding projections extending from an outer portion of said radial flange in the direction of said drum end, said plurality of axially-protruding projections being constructed and arranged to enclose a sealing gasket that is to be positioned around said threaded body.

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23. The closing plug of claim 22 wherein said radial flange has a modified hex shape.

24. The closing plug of claim 23 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding  
30 projections includes six spaced-apart projections.

25. The closing plug of claim 24 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.

26. The closing plug of claim 22 wherein said plurality of axially-protruding  
5 projections includes six spaced-apart projections.

27. The closing plug of claim 22 wherein each axially-protruding projection is of unitary construction with said radial flange.

10 28. A method of fabricating a closing plug with a structure for enclosing a sealing gasket, said closing plug being constructed and arranged for receipt by a threaded flange that is assembled into a drum end, said method comprising the following steps:  
providing a closing plug having a threaded body and a radial flange arranged adjacent a first end of said threaded body;  
15 configuring said radial flange with a plurality of formable flange portions; and  
bending an outer section of each flange portion into an axially-protruding projection extending from said radial flange wherein said axially-protruding projections are constructed and arranged to enclose a sealing gasket positioned around said threaded body radially inwardly of said axially-protruding projections.

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